

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/722,808

Examiner

Jeffrey L. Sterrett

Applicant(s)

DITTMER ET AL.

Art Unit

2838

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

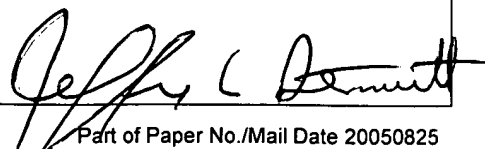
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/1/04 & 9/22/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

Jeffrey Sterrett
Primary Examiner



1. The information disclosure statements submitted on September 1, 2004 and September 22, 2004 have been considered by the examiner. However due to the extreme number of references cited (271) by the two information disclosure statements and because applicant has not indicated in any way which references are more pertinent than the others, a careful and detailed evaluation of each and every individual reference could not reasonably be provided. Thus the cited references have been given the same consideration as the rest of the prior art normally searched by the USPTO in the normal course of examination of a patent application, i.e. briefly scanned for pertinence and relevancy to the recited invention and deeper review given only to those deemed noteworthy. It is also noted that some of the cited references "got lost in the shuffle" and could not be considered at this time since no copies of those references were found by the examiner with the information disclosure statements (noted by the notation "no copy"). Duplicate citations between the two information disclosure statements were noted as considered on the September 1, 2004 information disclosure statement but lined through on the September 22, 2004 information disclosure statement.

2. The following prior art is made of record and not relied upon by the Examiner in forming a rejection is nevertheless considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Meszlenyi (US 5,612,860) and Grimm (US 5,955,872) are cited to show power converters with current limiting circuitry old and known in the art at the time of the invention.

3.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The claimed invention of a power converter current limit circuit is found to be allowable over the prior art since a power converter current limit circuit comprising a steady state current limit circuit that reduces an average current value through an inductor in the power converter to a steady state threshold during a transient phase and regulate the average inductor current value to the steady state threshold responsive to an overcurrent condition in addition to comprising a cycle by cycle current limit circuit that reduces instantaneous inductor current after the instantaneous inductor current equals or exceeds a maximum threshold during the transient phase was not found to be singularly or collectively taught by the prior art.

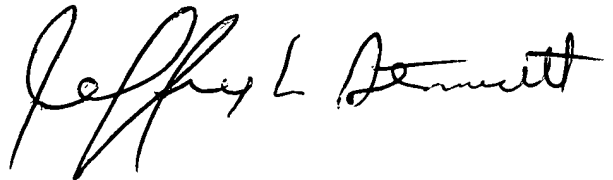
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey L. Sterrett whose telephone number is (571) 272-2085. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday & 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry can be reached on (571) 272-2084. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jeffrey L. Sterrett
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2838

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey L. Sterrett", written in a cursive style.